



currents

what's happening at the bridge

Our *mission* at the bridge Presbyterian Church is to
help people

Connect with God's people in your life
Connect with God's purpose in your life
Connect with God's passion for your life

Ways to Connect with God's *mission* at the bridge

Sun. Apr. 5 – Palm Sunday Services at 9:00 am and 10:30 am

Thu. Apr. 9 – 6:30 pm – Maundy Thursday Service

Fri. Apr. 10 – Noon – Good Friday Service

Sun. Apr. 12 – Easter Sunday Services at 9:00 am and 10:30 am

**** these will be updated weekly as we assess the health situation

**** Please remember all monthly/weekly groups are cancelled for the next several weeks. This includes **Sleep Mats, Book Club, Women of the Bridge, Scouts and others.** Please look for emails from the leaders about when the group will restart.**

Facebook Live Feeds this Week

Tuesday 12:30 pm - a time to communicate with Doug and the bridge family

Thursday 12:30 pm— a time to communicate with Doug and the bridge Family

Sunday 10:00 am—Worship with Doug

This Sunday will be via Facebook and on Zoom Video Conferencing . If you want to be connected by Zoom - let Wanda know by Friday. Email her at thebridgepres@gmail.com

For Facebook— YOU DO NOT HAVE TO HAVE AN ACCOUNT to view the feed. You can go to the website www.thebridgepres.org—go all the way to the bottom and click on the Facebook logo. You can also google the church name and go to the link to our home page on facebook.

***** Remember — on facebook—you may have to scroll down through old posts or even click on the video button to find the live feed depending on your device**

The bridge Core Habits

What does a disciple of Jesus Christ look like at **the bridge**? Our core habits answer that question. Our core habits are:

*Pray daily - Worship together weekly - Welcome & Include everyone - Belong to a small group -
Give generously - Cherish children -
Forgive & reconcile continually - Serve our community*

Worship Weekly

Date: March 29, 2020

Title: Be Still...And Other Ways God Messes with Us

Text: Exodus 14: 1 - 16

Questions:

What are you finding to be the most difficult part of sheltering in place?

Here's a quote by Eugene Peterson: *"There are times, when we are plunged not into a geographical wilderness but what I call a circumstantial wilderness.... This circumstantial wilderness is a terrible, frightening and dangerous place; but it's also where we gain an awareness of the great mystery of God and the extraordinary preciousness of life."* Can you think of a time when you found yourself in circumstantial wilderness?

Why would God demand the Israelites camp along the banks of the Red Sea knowing that it would take away any escape routes?

In Exodus 14: 13 God said to God's people wandering in the wilderness: *"Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."*

What does this quote tell you about our God?

What is the Lord saying to you through this quote?

Who can you share this quote with this week as you seek to be the Church in the world?

Additional Study Questions:

Read Psalm 46.

How does this Psalm connect with the story in Exodus?

What does this Psalm say to you about our God?

How does this Psalm speak to you during the Pandemic?

Read Matthew 4:1 – 11

How does this passage connect with the story in Exodus?

What does this passage say to you about Jesus and how Jesus dealt with his time in the wilderness?

What does this passage have to do with the season of Lent?

How does this passage speak to you during the Pandemic?

How does this quote by Dietrich Bonhoeffer connect with the passage and message this morning?

We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God."

– Dietrich Bonhoeffer

bridge "Notes" from Patty



Hi bridge friends,

Everyone is listening to the music that speaks calm to their souls right now. Instead of sharing music with you, I'm going for a little humor. Like many people, I'm working from home. Watch this video and tell me which "type" are you? Even if you're retired, I bet you see yourself as one of these types. I'm the "introvert" and "planner" mostly... today I want to be the "napper". Find your type and keep the faith. We'll see each other again soon! -Patty

<https://youtu.be/LzfTrr67ItM>



Pray Daily

- Kasey Cushing, Doug's nephew Zac's wife, diagnosed with COVID 19. Prayers for Casey and husband Zac.
- Virginia Hight's sister, Connie, diagnosed with pleurisy and waiting treatment; prayers for protection for Virginia, Connie, and daughter Maya who suffer from underlying health conditions.
- Vicky Martenis, friend of Cathy Boettcher, cancer treatments and awaiting surgery.
- Neighbor and friend of Sandy Sears, recent lung cancer diagnosis.
- Peg Clark's cousin, Connie, cancer that has spread.
- Cathy Boettcher's friend, Shelly Day, battling cancer.
- Charlie Riddle's housemate, Peter, surgery for an aneurysm.
- Kathy Dixon's 95-year-old father, heart attack and in serious condition.
- Susan Stanewick's neighbor who donated bone marrow to her brother David in Boston. Prayers for his recovery.
- Susan Stanewick's neighbors: Dennis, recovery from shoulder surgery; Linda, grieving the loss of her son, prayers for grief to lift; prayers for healing for Jean and John.
- Ned Underhill, friend of Ethel Adams, in rehab following second stroke and surgery for fall.
- Mary While, Ethel's cousin, possible colon cancer.
- Shirley Kastito, friend of Mary Ellen Cole, unresolved abdominal pain and bleeding.
- Fran and Dennis Rumpf, in the death of their beloved dog Bella.
- The bereaved who are unable to comfort and grieve the loss of loved ones in-person or at services as desired.

Words of Encouragement

“Alert Expectancy”

Upon reading Thomas Merton's, *Dialogues with Silence*, I was struck by his phrase, “alert expectancy,” which he described as “a heightened awareness, an alertness to the possibility of the hour,” and what he called “the grip of the present” [page xii]. It seemed to me to be a fitting spiritual practice for this time of social distancing and (perhaps for many) more time alone and in silence than usual. I wrote the following on the windy morning I was captured by this phrase.

“ALERT EXPECTANCY”

How do I know You are here, Holy Spirit of God?
But that I see the pine trees waving in Your wind;
I hear the windchime sounding Your presence;
I feel Your warm caress on my cheek...
(though at other times a gale force slap across my face!);
I taste the sandy grit in my mouth after a bunker shot in
Your wind tunnel;
I smell the spring fragrance of brightly-colored flowers wafted to me
by Your invisible breath.
The birds of the air rise and soar and dive, carried by Your invisible currents,
though they know not Your name.
Perhaps I do not either, God-of-many-names and no-name:
Holy Spirit, Breath of God, *Ruah Elohim*, Wind of Heaven.
I can only wait in alert expectancy for the signs of Your Presence always with me
because You are the Faithful One, though I know not Your name.

Barbara Hedin
3/25/20

Give Generously

This weeks offering is \$ 3,095

A you continue to give generously during this time, you can mail your pledges to 497 Olde Waterford Way, Suite 205, Leland, NC 28451 or set up direct payment where your bank will mail a check. It is very easy to set up and if you have any questions or need help, one of the generosity team members will be glad to talk to you. Just let Wanda know.

Cherish Children



During this time, it is important to stay connected to each other and to God. Because we are unable to connect in person, the Children and Families Ministry team will do our best to keep up our "normal" Sunday morning routine of having a "lesson" with activities and crafts that go along with Dr. Doug's sermons. Families, please check your email for activities, lesson ideas, and other resources from Elizabeth Murray. Please email Elizabeth at efmurray1975@gmail.com if you are not getting the resources and would like to.

Serve Our Community



Disaster Recovery Team

Brunswick County Health Services reports that 214 COVID-19 test samples have been collected in the county. As of 8:00 am Monday morning 6 of those tests have been positive, 74 were negative, and 134 results are still pending. Novant will begin testing on Tuesday at its facility in Supply. Most county offices such as licensing & permits, deeds & records, etc. are open by appointment only. To keep updated on county virus containment guidelines and restrictions, emergency alerts, and available services visit the site: ***brunswickcountync.gov/health/coronavirus***



North Carolina Association of Free & Charitable Clinics

New Hope Clinic Wish List Mission Project- Sustainable Mission Partner for March

The Coronavirus pandemic has greatly affected the care provided by the New Hope Clinic for low income, uninsured, Brunswick County adults. Their volunteer staff of healthcare professionals is still providing primary care and pharmacy, and is educating the public about the Coronavirus. Dental, all other testing, counseling, and service projects, have been cancelled. Patients matching sick visit criteria are directed to drive through testing.

Items from their Wish List are needed, as this situation is worsening.

Wish List Items

Cool Mist Compressor System for Home and Travel Use for Adults and Kids by LSBZ
or Personal Compressor System Machines

Omron 5 Series Upper Arm Blood Pressure Monitor, 2-User, 100 Reading Memory
or Upper Arm Automatic Blood Pressure Monitors

MedtFine Insulin Pen Needles (31G 8mm)

MedtFine Insulin Pen Needles (32G 4mm)

Pill Organizers- 7 day/ 4 times a day

Post-it Message Flags "Sign Here" assorted colors, bold arrow points

Post-it Super Sticky Rio de Janeiro Colors 3x3 notes

3x3 inches yellow self-stick notes

Heavy duty can liners-clear 56 gallon 1.2 ml

WAYS TO HELP

If you would like to donate by check, please make the check out to New Hope Clinic, and send to Wanda at 497 Olde Waterford Way, #205, Leland. If you want to sponsor an item from the list, indicate it in the memo area.

If you would like to order online, go to AmazonSmile Charity Lists for New Hope Clinic.

If you have shopped, a bin will be outside at the back door of the bridge Tuesday, April 7 from 9:00 to 10:00a.m. with a bridge member nearby.

Participation in this mission project is voluntary. Your generous and caring spirits are greatly appreciated by the Sustainable Mission Partners of the bridge Presbyterian Church.

Your Mission Team



BFA to Move to Remote Operations

Amid concerns of the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), Brunswick Family Assistance (BFA) will move all operations to a remote format. This move will not impact client services.

BFA staff will be able to handle all operations from remote locations, better protecting them and their clients during this crucial time. "We want to serve the community while also keeping them safe," said Executive Director Stephanie Bowen. "We believe this move will best allow us to serve those in need while doing our part to prevent the spread of COVID-19."

All operations will remain the same, with the exception of food pantry visits. Visits to the food pantry will be by appointment only, and clients are urged to call ahead of time to ensure timely response and visits to the pantry. During such a crucial time of need, no client services will be disrupted and BFA will continue to provide services to the community they serve.

We will continue to take every measure to ensure the health and safety of our community.

If you have further questions or concerns about the COVID-19, you can view the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/> or [NC Department of Health and Human Services website](#).

You can also view the measures the Brunswick County Health and Human Services Department have taken to address this issue at <https://www.brunswickcountync.gov/health/coronavirus/>

Do you have a question regarding the Coronavirus?

Brunswick County has opened a joint information center featuring a public health call line with county nurses available to answer questions and provide information to residents about the novel coronavirus. The phone line will be available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. until further notice.

The County also has an email account where residents can send in their questions via email. Emails sent over the weekend will be answered on the next business day.

Brunswick County Public Health Call Line and Email Information

Phone: 1.910.253.2339

Email: coronavirus@brunswickcountync.gov

24/7 HELPLINE: The NC Division of Public Health has a statewide helpline staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with a variety of experts who can assist you (1-866-462-3821).

Our own Mary Ellen Cole is part of an organization called Nurses Together in Action . They are working to support the health care system during this time. Thank you Mary Ellen for all you are doing.

Please see the appeal below. I understand that some of you may be in a high risk demographic or have a spouse who is, which would make you unable to volunteer. However, I thought perhaps you might network with other retired healthcare professionals and could share this with them.

As we face unprecedented times in response to COVID-19, it is best practice to plan and prepare for various scenarios. One area of planning is working towards supporting our local medical providers with additional personnel, if the need arises. To assist, I am organizing a database of those who are interested in volunteering in a health care setting.

Potential needs include:

- **Clinical (physicians, advanced care providers, nurses, EMS)**
- **Clinical Support (pharmacy, imaging, and respiratory care)**

If you are interested in being included in the Brunswick County Health Care Volunteer database, in one of the above capacities, please provide the following:

- Full Name
- Medical Profession
- Licensure
 - State Issued
 - Issue Date
 - Expiration Date
- Contact information

If you have **Administrative/Admin. Assistant experience in a health care facility**, and are interested in volunteering, please provide the following:

- Full Name
- Brief description of experience
- Contact information

Again, at this time, I am just gathering information of those who are interested in volunteering; by providing your information, you are simply saying you would like to learn more about potential opportunities.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I hope you have a nice evening, stay safe, and thank you for your consideration!

Thank you,

Leslie Stanley

Brunswick County
Emergency Services
Volunteer & Non-Profit Coordinator
910-253-2589

Misc. Announcements

Beth Moore Conference

The conference that was scheduled for April 24th and 25 has been cancelled. When we receive the refund, Wanda and Cathy Boettcher will contact everyone who paid and refund your payment.



Celebrating Birthdays at the bridge - March

Carol Nelson	28
Susan Stanewick	31